

Amendments to the Specification:

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The assignee of the present invention has developed a system for uploading images to the Internet, directly from the camera, as described in U.S Pat. ~~Application Ser. No. 6,636,259~~ entitled "Automatically Configuring A Web- Enabled Digital Camera To Access The Internet~~Method And System For Automatically Configuring A Hand Held Electronic Device For Accessing A Site On A Public Network~~" filed ~~issued~~ on July 26, 2000October 21, 2003.

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In this system, cameras connect to a gateway server on the Internet via a service provider, which may include a wireless carrier and/or an Internet service provider (ISP). In order to create a camera that requires no configuration to connect to the Internet, the camera is provided with a software application that is pre-configured to establish communication with the ISP and the gateway server. Upon establishing a connection, the camera sends ~~they~~ the user's account ID and password to the gateway server. The user account information is then stored on the camera for use the next time the electronic device accesses the website. Thus, the user does not have to enter account information in order to establish the ISP connection or the website account before accessing the Internet.

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The second problem with equipping digital cameras with web browsers for displaying web applications from photo-service sites is the limitations ~~inherent~~ inherent in web browsers, which is that browsers typically do not allow web applications to have access to content of the requesting device. Using a PC environment as an example, assume a user wants to upload

images to a photo-sharing site on the Internet using a browser. To upload images, the user navigates to the photo sharing site and clicks an "upload" button. In response, the photo sharing site sends an upload web page to the user's PC. Because of the web browser does not allow the upload web page to access to the hard drive, the upload page displays several blank image name fields for the user to fill-in. If the user does not know the names of the images, the user must click a "browse" button on the web page in order to search the directories on the PC for the desired image files. Once the user navigates to the correct directory and selects one of the images files, the name of the image file is then inserted into one of the image name fields on the web page. The process is then repeated for each image the user wants to have uploaded.

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Referring again to FIG. 2A2B, for images that are identified in the list 50 as being stored locally on the client device 12 in step 114, the web application 42 generates a reference that comprises a file path or other pointer to the image in the client device 12 along with a resize command in step 116. Preferably, this translation from image ID to the file path is performed by the gateway server 20 when the web page containing the ID passes through on its way from the web application 42 to the client device 12.

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For images that are identified in the list 50 as being stored on a photo-service site 14 or other server in step 118, the web application 42 makes a request for the image from the gateway server 20 using the image ID in step 120. The gateway server 20 then fetches the image from the indicated location, resizes and converts the image to the required format, and passes a URL to the resulting resized image file back to the web application 42 in step 122. The web application 42

then inserts this URL into to the web page that is transmitted to the device browser 54 in step 124. Alternatively, the translation from image ID to a URL to a resized, converted image file is performed at the gateway server 20 when the web page containing the ID passes through on its way from the web application 42 to the client 12. application 42. For image viewing, there is no actual requirement for the web application 42 to have a copy of the image or images being displayed on the client device 12.

The entire viewing function can be done with image references, along with appropriate gateway functions and browser requests for local files. However, when a web application 42 wishes to perform an operation on an image, such as color balance, contrast enhancement, rotate, etc., an actual copy of the image is required at the web application 42. Thus, the web application can request a copy of the image from the gateway server 20 in any resolution up to full image resolution. In this case, the web application 42 will perform whatever function desired, and create any versions of the image, such as thumbnails, within its own file system for reference by the browser 54. The modified images can be temporary or permanent. For permanent images, the web application 42 must request that the gateway server 20 store the resulting image in an appropriate location, depending on the user's account information.

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The preferred embodiment is for the delete function to be handled by the gateway server 20. In this case, any image delete functions must be requested by the web application 42. The gateway server 20 would be responsible for issuing the appropriate warning to the user via the browser 54 or its underlying software. Additionally, the gateway server 20 may cache copies of all deleted files for a period of time or until the user "empties the trash," thus preventing the user from accidentally destroying valuable images. This is especially true for deletes of original

images when image modifications are done. It is good practice to never delete the original image, and carry modifications via additional files.